#5

An Inaugural Dissertation On Mania a potu.

By

James A. Washington

of

North Carolina.

Passed March 22d 1826

The c
make a few
ted. As
ment fe
arises from
the term m
priate
xiation ha
absolutely de
served, gra
The pre
the muscul
well of the
cle — The
and all the
Lymphoid —
bowels is
sited by th
cing the mu

The disease, upon which, it is proposed to make a few remarks, has been variously designated. As mental alienation forms its most prominent feature, and as it, almost exclusively, arises from the excessive use of ardent spirits, the term mania a potu, is, perhaps, its most appropriate appellation. After a course of intoxication has been kept up for some time, and then abruptly discontinued, the disease is generally observed, gradually to make its approach.

The previous excitment has now passed away, the muscular power is peculiarly enfeebled, as well of the involuntary, as of the voluntary muscles — The flesh looses its tone and compactness, and all the motions of the patient are unsteady & languid — The peristaltic movement of the bowels is suspended, unless preternaturally excited by their accrimonious contents — In noticing the muscular relaxation, we are, by no means,

over-
now throu
but feebly
& tonic im
with-draw

surge, pa
of the st
is almost
stomach
the rejecti
be taken
however,
when eve
bowels u
to costiv
to their s
and to the
The brain

to over-look the heart & blood vessels — The heart now throbs but with little force, and the pulse beats but feebly — thus we see, that the naturally exciting & tonic influence of the vital fluid is, in a measure, with-drawn from the whole system.

The prima via are, at this early stage, particularly disordered — The powers of the stomach are enfeebled, and digestion is almost entirely suspended — We find the stomach nauseated and irritable, and hence the rejection of almost every thing which may be taken in — with this important exception, however, that a little stimulus will be retained when every thing else would be cast out — The bowels will, almost always, be found inclined to costiveness, which is attributable, as much to their suspended functions in other respects, as to the suspension of their peristaltic motion. The brain & whole nervous System seem to

have lo
immede
slightly

days, w
photo, p
stage, its
cement i
the brain
side of an
observe
d by the
the highly
and glass
ughout
is opaque
ion of th
find its
indeed it

have lost much of their power — and hence the immediate cause of the nervous tremours, which slighely exist at a very early period.

Such symptoms continuing, about thre days, we shall find them superseded by mania a potu, properly so called. — What gives to this stage, its distinctive character, is the mental derangement induced by the peculiar implication of the brain — We do not, however, find that full tide of arterial blood, rushing to the brain, which is observed to take place, in phrenitis, as indicated by the violent throbbing of the carotid arteries, the highly suffused and florid face, the fierce and glasing eye, the throbbing pulsatile pain throughout the brain, as if it would burst asunder its osseous envelope — but upon the application of the finger to the carotid artery, we find its beat quick, small and tremulous, indeed it is some times almost imperceptible —

we shall,
ed, and n
lers diffe
we behold
suffusion
sometimes
ered when
the whole
tient seem
very unde
The affect
ting natu
excitement
traitable
so strongl
other circu
movement
fed it d
redition to

we shall, at most, but observe the face of a dusky red, and not of a scarlet hue. The eye also, looks differently from what it does in phrenitis — we behold it, indeed, somewhat suffused, but the suffusion is not of a high arterial character. — Sometimes the pupil is dilated, and this is observed when the mind is deeply oppressed, and the whole system nearly paralysed — the patient seems now, most to resemble one, labouring under compressed brain from accident. — The affection of the mind is of a very interesting nature — not caused by high arterial excitement, we do not find that fierce and intractable spirit to predominate, which, often, so strongly marks mania supervening under other circumstances — Sometimes in the commencement of the mental infirmity, you may find it difficult of detection — Your questions relative to the affection of different parts, upon

which th
and diplom
will soon
nation of
most unf
often fal
to get in
the affect
of his cou
or startou
The timi
character
to an eq
pound on
attempt
danger, or
all convic
or remark
indeed, the

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] shall [illegible] be delivered. But [illegible] will not be so [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

must [illegible]

[illegible] under the

exciting influence of [illegible]

[illegible] stimulation [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] lines were produced by motion from the head or the diameter of a vertical [illegible]

The stomach or bile effusion [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] of these curves are from the nature of the

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] be

[illegible] capitalists [illegible]

[illegible] of blood [illegible]

[illegible] the United States [illegible]

[illegible] "the high [illegible] of [illegible]

[illegible] and [illegible] probabilities.

[illegible] who employs them [illegible]

without [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] effect [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] would be [illegible]

[illegible] state of the system [illegible]

[illegible] of each [illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible] and

[illegible] even [illegible]

[illegible] seizing [illegible]

in the Philadelphia [illegible]

[illegible] effect of [illegible]
[illegible] symptom [illegible]
[illegible] lies
[illegible]
[illegible] probably attended [illegible]
[illegible] hypochondriasis, [illegible] other more obvious cause. Although the case have continued for any time, and the powers of life, be almost exhausted, to resort to medicines would be [illegible] the system is now so [illegible] in the energies, and the constitution is so broken, that the wide pervading influence of anodyes would be [illegible] an aggravation of the evils now [illegible] follow their administration. The particular state of the liver and of the secretory viscera, should they have been suffered [illegible] functionally, from the abuse of [illegible]

may result, in a considerable degree, to the injurious effects which would be likely to result from emetics, or, indeed, any other, to a very absolute minority. It may be said, even, that emetics will rather do a great deal of good, in an immense majority of cases, and be liable to be regarded for a condition of the brain.

Granted that prevention prevents, if we are to look for its more decisive demonstration, upon the whole therefore, the use of emetics is not recommended as general practice.

Purgatives, in almost every case, are, with, results not well a very serious, in the disease but to open the bowels which are usually very costive, and to carry off the foul contents. Calomel is indicated for this purpose.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the same, [illegible] [illegible] effect [illegible] be [illegible] should not [illegible] amendment of the case have taken place [illegible].

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a few ounces of [illegible] in the [illegible], [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] is worthy of the highest commendation. The [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] or repeated doses [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] or some other [illegible] [illegible]; or if the case should be unusually [illegible] the most active [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] spirits, [illegible] be [illegible] [illegible] employed with the [illegible]

[illegible] have [illegible] [illegible] more fully into the treatment of this [illegible] [illegible] to refer to Armstrongs most valuable [illegible]ation, [illegible]

tion of some rules of practice which are been inculcated, and for a further detail of what may be necessary in the management of the affection.

The [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] and alternations to be sustained by the [illegible] [illegible] and by the various [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] we have reason to believe, that it has been real by proved beneficent. In the [illegible] of diseases the [illegible] and [illegible] of different [illegible] [illegible] from the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] different [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. [illegible] [illegible] alternately [illegible] at the distance [illegible] in a shorter or longer time, some with less, others with a greater duration. [illegible]

a straight direction

G No 97 1826

Lectures of
Maria a Porta
by Spiders Web
Rich.d Sexton.